Park Ranger Programs: Grand Canyon Village

Discover Grand Canyon with free programs given by park rangers and volunteers; no reservations needed. Programs take place in Grand Canyon Village; see page 8 for Desert View programs. Parking is limited; use the free shuttle buses to access programs. All program times are Mountain Standard; Arizona does not recognize daylight-savings time.

Outdoor programs may be cancelled during inclement weather or when lightning danger is present. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all programs. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight for programs after 6 pm.

**For all hikes, bring 2 quarts (liters) of water, sunscreen, hat, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes.

Time	Programs	Meeting Location	Duration	Special Notes
7 am	Cedar Ridge Hike Discover the canyon's beauty while descending 1,140 feet (347m) on an unpaved trail. This strenuous 3-mile (5 km), round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking.**	South Kaibab Trailhead	3–4 hours	Trailhead closed to private vehicles; ride the free orange shuttle.
9 am	Grand Canyon Ecology Learn about Grand Canyon's life zones and how elevation and exposure change what you see and what plants and animals live there.	Mather Point Amphitheater	20 minutes	Great for Junior Rangers. Accessible.
9 am	Fossil Walk Walk through an ancient ocean of marine creatures on this moderate 0.5-mile (0.8 km), one-way walk.	Bright Angel Lodge (rim side patio)	1 hour	
9 am	Guided Hike Hike a less-traveled route along the rim. You may choose to return hike with the ranger or ride the shuttle bus.**	Hermits Rest Transfer	2 hours	ONLY Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
9 am	Guided Bicycle Tour Pedal through cool forests and along the rim while learning about geology and natural history. Bring your own bicycle or arrive early to rent one. One to two quarts (1-2 liters) of water per person are required. Hat, sunscreen, and snacks strongly recommended.	Parking Lot 4 near Bright Angel Bicycles	2 hours	ONLY Tuesday and Saturday.
9:30 am	Geology Walk Discover Grand Canyon's amazing geologic story. Why is it so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here in the world?	Yavapai Geology Museum	30–45 minutes	Accessible.
1 pm	History Talk Discover stories of people's enduring relationship with the canyon and perhaps take a short walk around the village historic district.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	20 minutes	Perfect for Junior Rangers and train passengers. Accessible.
2 pm	Geo-Glimpse Learn about geology while exploring Yavapai Geology Museum. Consider walking the Trail of Time following the program.	Yavapai Geology Museum	20 minutes	Accessible.
2:30 pm	Porch Talk Relax on the porch and discover the canyon's treasures; topics vary.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	20 minutes	Perfect for Junior Rangers and train passengers. Accessible.
3:30 pm	Critter Chat Learn about wildlife and some tips to keep you safe during your visit.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center plaza	20 minutes	Perfect for Junior Rangers. Accessible.
3:30 pm	Geo-Glimpse Learn about geology while exploring Yavapai Geology Museum. Consider walking the Trail of Time following the program.	Yavapai Geology Museum	20 minutes	Accessible.
4:30 pm	Critter Chat Learn about wildlife and some tips to keep you safe during your visit.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center plaza	20 minutes	Perfect for Junior Rangers. Accessible.
5 pm	Condor Talk Learn about the majestic and endangered California condor and its reintroduction to northern Arizona.	Lookout Studio	45 minutes	
6:30 pm	Campfire Program Experience a traditional family campfire program and learn what Grand Canyon offers.	Sage Loop Campfire Circle	1 hour	
8:30 pm May to July	Evening Program Relax beneath the stars and enjoy a presentation on Grand Canyon's	McKee	1 hour	Trails to the

8 pm Aug and Sept	fascinating natural or cultural history. Check visitor centers for topics.	Amphitheater	amphitheater are
			paved; short sections
			exceed 5% grade

Time	Family Programs—Perfect for Junior Rangers	Meeting Location	Duration	Special Notes
9 am	Adventure Hike Explore the inner canyon on this strenuous, 1.5- to 2-hour round-trip hike on the Hermit Trail. Board the free Hermits Rest Route shuttle bus by 8 am.**	Hermits Rest	2 hours	For ages 9–14. Starts June 10.
9 am	Discovery Pack Explore Grand Canyon ecology and discover its diversity of plants and animals. Learn to use binoculars, field guides, and other naturalist tools. Parents sign out the Discovery Packs and must return them by 4 pm; number of packs limited.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center flagpole	1.5 hours	For ages 9–14. Starts June 10 and ends August 11.
10 am	Kids Rock! Join in on fun games and activities exploring Grand Canyon's natural world with programs about fire ecology, water, insects, bats, people of the past, and much more.	Shrine of the Ages	1 hour	For ages 7–11. Starts June 10 and ends August 11.
1 pm	Story Time Adventures Hear children's books about Grand Canyon with props and interactive games to bring the stories to life.	El Tovar Porch (rim side)	30 minutes	For ages 2–6. Starts June 10.
4 pm	Way Cool Stuff for Kids Learn about Grand Canyon's way cool environment with activities about animal adaptations, predator-prey relationships, invasive species, and more.	Shrine of the Ages	1 hour	For ages 7–11. Starts June 10.

Inside the Canyon

Hiking to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? Join a park ranger to discover the natural and cultural history of the inner canyon. These programs are offered in Grand Canyon's backcountry and only accessible by a long, arduous hike.

Indian Garden, 2 pm and as posted, Friday to Monday Check the bulletin board for topics, locations, and additional program times. Accessible only by hiking 4.5 miles (7.2 km) down the Bright Angel Trail.

Phantom Ranch, 4 pm and 7:30 pm, Daily Check bulletin boards for program locations and topics for talks and evening programs. Accessible only by hiking or a mule ride to the bottom of Grand Canyon.

Special Night Programs

Explore Grand Canyon in the dark with full moon walks, star talks, graveyard walks, or a special Twilight Zone program for families and children. Offered as staffing allows. Check at visitor centers for times and locations.

Become a Junior Ranger

Children ages four and older can pick up a free Junior Ranger book from any visitor center. Have fun learning about Grand Canyon, complete activities, attend a park ranger program, and earn a badge and certificate. Unique Junior Ranger programs are also available at Phantom Ranch, North Rim, and more than 250 national parks, seashores, and monuments nationwide. This program is generously supported by the Grand Canyon Association.



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Desert View

Summer Season: May 24 - September 3, 2012



Park Ranger Programs

Time	Program	Location	Duration	
10 am	Walk on the Quiet Side Stretch your legs and expand your mind while discovering what makes Grand Canyon unique.	Desert View Visitor Center	30–45 minutes	
11 am and 1:30 pm	Journey Through Time Explore the remains of an 800-year-old ancestral Puebloan village while walking a 0.1-mile (0.2 km) flat, paved trail. Accessible.	Tusayan Museum	30 minutes	
2:30 pm and 3:30 pm	Cultural Connection Bring your imagination and learn about an aspect of people's rich legacy at Grand Canyon. Accessible.	Tusayan Museum	20–30 minutes	
One hour before sunset	Spirit of Sunset Leave the crowds behind and end your day with tranquility, inspiration, spectacular colors, and the natural sounds of the canyon.	In front of Desert View Watchtower	45 minutes	



Food and Beverage

Desert View Snack Bar 8 am to sunset; located in Desert View Trading Post

Books and Gifts

Desert View Trading Post 8 am to sunset Desert View Visitor Center 9 am–6 pm Desert View Watchtower 8 am to sunset Desert View Watchtower Stairs 8 am to one half-hour before sunset

Tusayan Museum and Ruin 9 am–5 pm; located 3 miles (4.8 km) west of Desert View.

Camping

Desert View Campground (NPS) \$12/night; no hook-ups; maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1m). First-come, first-served self-registration.

Services

Desert View Market May 24: 9 am–6 pm; starting May 25: 8 am to 7 pm

Gas Station 9 am–5 pm; fuel always available with credit card.

